



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of this body are pleased and honored
3 to recognize a group of individuals who have contributed
4 greatly to the heritage and education of the children of our
5 nation; and

6 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois shall set apart a day known
7 as "American Indian Day" in recognition of the many
8 contributions of the American Indians to the economic and
9 cultural heritage of all the citizens of the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, American Indian Day is also held to honor all
11 American Indians and Native Americans who have fought, served,
12 and worked to make the United States the greatest country in
13 the world; and

14 WHEREAS, The years before the arrival of Christopher
15 Columbus saw the rise of an advanced agriculturally based
16 Indian civilization with true urban centers, monumental public
17 works, and ruling classes; and

18 WHEREAS, During the period of European colonization,
19 American Indian societies and tribes within the present
20 continental United States were integrated through
21 interconnecting political, economic, social, and religious
22 obligation and support systems provided by extended families or
23 kinship groups; and

24 WHEREAS, Through European colonization, most tribes were
25 forced to sell their lands, moved to new territory, and
26 subjected to forced acculturation programs by the federal
27 government; many other tribes remain on reservations or tribal
28 lands within their old homelands, where they retain many of
29 their cultural patterns and traditional values; therefore, be
30 it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we honor American Indians for their contributions to American
4 heritage, and for their optimism and pride in this great
5 nation, we do hereby declare September 1, 2005, and each
6 September 1 thereafter, as American Indian Day in the State of
7 Illinois; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
9 displayed at the Chicago Cultural Center and a suitable copy be
10 delivered to Cleatus Lee Murdaugh of the Southern Cherokee
11 Tribe.